

THE RUSSIAN FLEET

Is Reported to Be Still in
Kamranh Bay.

NEUTRALITY QUESTION

NOW AGITATING THE COURTS OF
THE BELLIGERENTS.

Paris Not Yet Advised of Protest From
Japan—Rojestvensky Outside
Three-Mile Limit.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 20, 5 p.m.—It is claimed here that Admiral Rojestvensky has not overstepped the French rules of neutrality at Kamranh Bay, and that the neutrality of his ships occurring outside territorial waters. Russia has not been advised that Japan has lodged a protest in Paris.

The charges of Russia's violation of neutrality, coupled with the revival of the story that Russia intends to send her Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles, and the report that the British Mediterranean fleet has been sent to the Aegean sea to head off the Russian fleet, cause extreme irritation.

The Associated Press is again authorized to state that Russia has no intention of sending out the Black Sea fleet.

The admiralty officials are quite elated over the receipt of news showing that not a single collier dispatched to the China sea through the Straits of Sundra for the purpose of throwing the Japanese off the scent when Admiral Rojestvensky passed through the Straits of Malacca fell into the hands of the Japanese.

Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Straits of Sundra, and the Japanese then withdrew from the latter straits, having missed both the quarry and the decoy.

The admiralty is silent as to whether Rojestvensky has left Kamranh Bay.

Still at Kamranh Bay.
SAIGON, French Cochinchina, April 20.—Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet is still in Kamranh Bay.

The French admiral, Jonquieres, has taken every step to secure neutrality.

COMMENT AT PARIS

Formal Denial of Any Protest From
Japan.

PARIS, April 20.—No confirmation has yet been obtained of the report that Japan has formally protested against the stay of the Russian squadron in the waters of Indo-China as being a breach of neutrality. The following guarded semi-official statement was issued:

"Nothing is known in the highest French diplomatic quarters concerning the protest which according to certain foreign reports has been formally addressed by Japan to the French government relative to the violation of neutrality by the Russian squadron. Furthermore, this squadron has been outside French waters for several days past."

In view of today's press dispatches saying the Russian squadron was still at Kamranh Bay the last part of the semi-official statement appears to indicate that Admiral Rojestvensky has withdrawn outside the three-mile limit from the shore line of the bay, which, according to French law, constitutes the open sea.

Latter the foreign office gave out a formal denial of the reported protest of Japan.

Saying, in response to many inquiries: "The French government has no objection to the Japanese squadron, and the Japanese government has no protest or complaint to the French government relative to an alleged breach of neutrality."

It was learned in other quarters that Dr. Motono made his usual weekly call at the foreign office yesterday, which was diplomatic day. The report of a protest probably grew out of his call, but the question of France's neutrality has not been presented here in any form.

Denied Sending Wireless Report.

LONDON, April 20.—Foreign Secretary Lansdowne has taken occasion formally to deny to the Russian government the statement of the Novoe Vremya in regard to the British cruiser Iphigenia, which vessel, the newspaper said, had transmitted by wireless telegraphy the information that she had passed within three miles of the Japanese fleet. The Novoe Vremya declared, was very important news to the Japanese, inasmuch as it showed that the Russian fleet was in the Japanese hands. The denial of the British foreign office contained the specific statement that the Japanese did not even sight the Russian squadron.

NO REPLY FROM FRANCE.

Tokyo Awaiting Answer to Protest
Against Russian Fleet.

TOKIO, April 20.—5 p.m.—The reply of France to the protest of Japan against the Russian squadron using Kamranh Bay has not been received in Tokyo, but is expected shortly.

The statement that the cabinet and the elder statesmen, after a conference, had forwarded a protest, is incorrect. France was approached through the usual diplomatic channels.

The officials here are not certain whether the Russians are still at Kamranh Bay, although they were reported to be there yesterday.

To Make Tour of the Coast.

PARIS, April 20.—A dispatch received today says M. Beau, governor general of Indo-China, recently declined on making a tour of the coast on board a naval auxiliary vessel. He stopped at Quinhon which is 150 miles north of Kamranh Bay and afterward proceeded to Haiphong, capital of Tonkin.

STEAMER AGENTS PROTESTED.

Against Refusal to Allow German Ship
to Coal.

PORT LOUIS, Island of Mauritius, April 20.—Agents of the German steamer Juliette have formally protested to the German consul against the local government's refusal to allow the vessel to coal and against the consequent delay here.

The action of the local officials was due to statements made by British members of the crew to the effect that the Juliette is carrying stores for the Russian squadron in the China sea.

No. 16,278.

THE CANAL COMMISSION

NOT ALL THE EXECUTIVE COM-
MITTEE HAVE RETURNED.

Chairman Shonts of the Panama canal commission and Judge Magoon of the executive committee of that body returned to Washington from New York last night. Mr. Shonts was unable to finish up all of the many details of the work in connection with his recent election to the presidency of the Panama Railroad and Steamship Company, and after a few days in Washington will return to New York for that purpose. Chief Engineer Wallace of the commission did not return to Washington with his colleagues last night, as was expected, and will not be here for several days. Consequently the daily meetings of the executive committee, which were scheduled to take place immediately, have of necessity been postponed. Mr. Shonts had a number of conferences with his subordinates, however, and upon the return of Chief Engineer Wallace the executive committee will settle down to work and keep it from then on.

"Nothing is known in the highest French diplomatic quarters concerning the protest which according to certain foreign reports has been formally addressed by Japan to the French government relative to the violation of neutrality by the Russian squadron. Furthermore, this squadron has been outside French waters for several days past."

In view of today's press dispatches saying the Russian squadron was still at Kamranh Bay the last part of the semi-official statement appears to indicate that Admiral Rojestvensky has withdrawn outside the three-mile limit from the shore line of the bay, which, according to French law, constitutes the open sea.

Latter the foreign office gave out a formal denial of the reported protest of Japan.

Saying, in response to many inquiries: "The French government has no objection to the Japanese squadron, and the Japanese government has no protest or complaint to the French government relative to an alleged breach of neutrality."

It was learned in other quarters that Dr. Motono made his usual weekly call at the foreign office yesterday, which was diplomatic day. The report of a protest probably grew out of his call, but the question of France's neutrality has not been presented here in any form.

The statement that the cabinet and the elder statesmen, after a conference, had forwarded a protest, is incorrect. France was approached through the usual diplomatic channels.

The officials here are not certain whether the Russians are still at Kamranh Bay, although they were reported to be there yesterday.

To Make Tour of the Coast.

PARIS, April 20.—A dispatch received today says M. Beau, governor general of Indo-China, recently declined on making a tour of the coast on board a naval auxiliary vessel. He stopped at Quinhon which is 150 miles north of Kamranh Bay and afterward proceeded to Haiphong, capital of Tonkin.

The Novoe Vremya declared, was very important news to the Japanese, inasmuch as it showed that the Russian fleet was in the Japanese hands. The denial of the British foreign office contained the specific statement that the Japanese did not even sight the Russian squadron.

In view of today's press dispatches saying the Russian squadron was still at Kamranh Bay the last part of the semi-official statement appears to indicate that Admiral Rojestvensky has withdrawn outside the three-mile limit from the shore line of the bay, which, according to French law, constitutes the open sea.

Latter the foreign office gave out a formal denial of the reported protest of Japan.

Saying, in response to many inquiries: "The French government has no objection to the Japanese squadron, and the Japanese government has no protest or complaint to the French government relative to an alleged breach of neutrality."

It was learned in other quarters that Dr. Motono made his usual weekly call at the foreign office yesterday, which was diplomatic day. The report of a protest probably grew out of his call, but the question of France's neutrality has not been presented here in any form.

The statement that the cabinet and the elder statesmen, after a conference, had forwarded a protest, is incorrect. France was approached through the usual diplomatic channels.

THE CANAL COMMISSION

NOT ALL THE EXECUTIVE COM-
MITTEE HAVE RETURNED.

Chairman Shonts of the Panama canal commission and Judge Magoon of the executive committee of that body returned to Washington from New York last night. Mr. Shonts was unable to finish up all of the many details of the work in connection with his recent election to the presidency of the Panama Railroad and Steamship Company, and after a few days in Washington will return to New York for that purpose. Chief Engineer Wallace of the commission did not return to Washington with his colleagues last night, as was expected, and will not be here for several days. Consequently the daily meetings of the executive committee, which were scheduled to take place immediately, have of necessity been postponed. Mr. Shonts had a number of conferences with his subordinates, however, and upon the return of Chief Engineer Wallace the executive committee will settle down to work and keep it from then on.

"Nothing is known in the highest French diplomatic quarters concerning the protest which according to certain foreign reports has been formally addressed by Japan to the French government relative to the violation of neutrality by the Russian squadron. Furthermore, this squadron has been outside French waters for several days past."

FAVORED UNION WITH GREECE.

Cretan Chamber of Deputies Opened at
Canea Today.

CANEA, Island of Crete, April 20.—The Cretan chamber of deputies was opened today by Prince George, the high commissioner of the powers, who, in his speech, blamed the revolutionists and declared his readiness to grant every reasonable reform properly proposed.

The Greek king, on the arrival of the prince, the chamber of deputies unanimously declared in favor of the union of Crete with Greece, and the prince, who was accompanied by his wife, the princess, and a large suite, proceeded to the palace to so inform the prince.

ANXIETY OVER LAUNCH.

Non-Arrival of Gregory at Gibraltar
From New York.

GIBRALTAR, April 20.—Considerable anxiety is felt here at the non-arrival of the gasoline launch Gregory.

The Gregory arrived at Ponta Delgada, Azores Islands, April 19, and on arrival of her sailing for Gibraltar has been received here.

The Gregory was built by Lewis Nixon of New York. She is ninety feet long, is of steel and has two 300-horse power motors. The vessel started from New York, January 5, to make a trip to the Azores, the purpose of winning the prize of \$10,000 offered by a European enthusiast for the first motor boat to cross the Atlantic under power. The Gregory left New York with a crew of nine men. She was commanded by Capt. August W. Loese, and had as chief engineer Philip R. Adams, one of the best known gas engine experts.

HIMERA REACHES NEW YORK.

Steamer in Port for Repairs—Damaged
by Explosion.

NEW YORK, April 20.—The British steamer Himera, which put in at Norfolk several days ago, arrived bound from New Orleans with a cargo of coal and was damaged by an explosion of one of her boilers, arrived here today. She will make repairs at this port before proceeding.

The Himera's cargo is destined for Venice. About a month will be required to make repairs on the damaged boiler.

The accident to the Himera occurred on April 6. Her starboard boiler was made entirely useless by the explosion, but her other one was not damaged and she continued at reduced speed. She reached Norfolk April 14, and secured medical attendance for the injured men. It was thought that repairs would be made at that port, but the steamer's agents directed that she replenish her coal supply and proceed to New York.

Hay Off for Genoa.

NERVI, Italy, April 20.—Secretary Hay and his party, all in good spirits, left here at 11 o'clock this morning for Genoa.

Greater Pittsburgh Bill Signed.

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 20.—Gov. Pennypacker today signed the Greater Pittsburgh bill, which provides for the consolidation of the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny City.

The Columbia Passes Tortugas.

The Navy Department is informed that the cruiser Columbia passed Tortugas, Fla., yesterday, on her way to Vera Cruz with the remains of the Mexican ambassador.

Secretary to Legation at Panama.

Mr. W. S. Sands, former secretary of legation to Korea and adviser to the king, has been appointed secretary of the United States legation at Panama, to succeed Mr. Lee, legation consul general there.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1905—TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

PLANS FOR DEFENSE

Counsel for Nan Patterson
Conferred With Prisoner

IN TOMBS PRISON TODAY

PERSONNEL OF JURY MINUTELY
CONSIDERED.

Accused Expressed Herself Confident of
Acquittal—New Witnesses to
Establish Her Innocence.

NEW YORK, April 20.—The three lawyers who are acting as counsel for Nan Patterson in her trial for the murder of "Caesar" Young, a confidential agent of the Tombs prison today, at which the plans of the defense and the personnel of the jury were discussed. Lawyers Abraham Levy, Henry W. Unger and Daniel O'Reilly were present. Miss Patterson expressed her pleasure at the composition of the jury, which was completed yesterday, and disappointment at the delay in postponing the taking of testimony until Monday.

Sure of Acquittal.

"I am sure of an acquittal this time," she told Lawyer Levy, "and every day only adds to my misery. The Tombs is a long time to shut up in prison."

Lawyer Levy said today: "We have new witnesses who will establish Nan Patterson's innocence beyond a doubt. We are going to this trial 100 per cent stronger in point of evidence than we did the last trial."

"We are not going to rely upon the failure of the prosecution to prove its case for an acquittal. We are going to prove the innocence of Nan Patterson."

FLATTERED THE JURY.

Counsel for Nan Patterson Complimented
That Body.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

NEW YORK, April 20.—Abraham Levy, senior counsel for Nan Patterson, said today: "The jury that will try Nan Patterson represents the finest combination of brains ever summoned in a New York murder trial. I have never seen a finer, more able looking set of men."

"I have the greatest confidence in them. Miss Patterson is greatly pleased with the jury, too. She knows, as we all do, that they will weigh the evidence minutely. There can be only one verdict and that will be an acquittal. The expeditious methods employed by the recorder in selecting the jury mean as all greatly. Miss Patterson means any one else. We have new witnesses who will establish her innocence beyond a doubt," Mr. Levy continued. "We are going to this trial 100 per cent stronger in point of evidence than we did in the last trial. We are not going to rely upon a failure of the prosecution to prove its case for an acquittal. We are going to prove the innocence of Miss Patterson."

Daniel O'Reilly, junior counsel, said: "Nan Patterson was a delighted young woman last night, and today finds no change in her feelings regarding the jury chosen to try her. She is so confident that this jury will believe fully in her innocence that she is only nervous and impatient for the trial to begin."

Mr. O'Reilly continued: "Neither Mr. Levy nor myself can do more than aid the jury which the jury was completed by the action of Recorder Ford in keeping the panel until late last night as being in any way harmful to our client. We did not relax our own deliberation or carelessness in choosing the men, in spite of the pressure. I think it noticeable, however, that District Attorney Hand did grow less cautious and let things pass that he had deemed cause for challenging talesmen earlier in the session. I think we have begun well. I think it is our duty to the jury."

THE SMITHS' CASE.

Motion to Inspect Minutes of Grand
Jury Granted.

NEW YORK, April 20.—The motion made by J. Morgan Smith and his wife, the brother-in-law and sister of Nan Patterson, to inspect the minutes of the grand jury in the case against them in which they are charged with conspiracy, was granted today by Judge Foster in the court of general sessions.

At the same time Judge Foster disallowed their demurrer to the indictment and denied their attorney's motion for a summary order of dismissal. The letters taken from them after their arrest in Cincinnati.

ORDER FOR ORDNANCE.

Branch of Krupp Works Busy on Guns
for Russia.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

A cablegram from Vienna says: The Russian government has ordered 500 new field guns and great number of heavy siege guns from a branch of the Krupp works at Tralzen, in lower Austria. The order calls for delivery at the earliest date possible, and the works are now running twenty-four hours a day to hurry the order through.

Three high Russian officials are living at the works to supervise the manufacture of the guns and several Japanese who are "studying" in a village near by are being closely watched by the Russian secret service agents.

MR. MORRISON PROTESTS.

Alleged Interference With Rights of
Labor in Porto Rico.

Mr. Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, called on the Secretary of War this afternoon in reference to certain appeals that have been made to President Samuel Gomper of that organization by the labor interests of Porto Rico. The appeals are for support in their effort to obtain an increase of wages, which has resulted in conflicts with the police authorities of the island. The appeal came from Santiago Iglesias, the local organizer of the Federation of Labor in Porto Rico, who cabled to President Gomper from Ponce as follows:

"Pacific meetings, thousands of workers being destroyed by the police. Sixty workers wounded by shooting and beating. Fourteen thousand strikers asked—increased wages. Your solidarity should cause great benefit."

Mr. Morrison, on behalf of the federation, asked for information as to the alleged abuses. He also entered a vigorous protest against the alleged interference with the workingmen of Porto Rico while they are holding peaceful meeting in the interests of their crafts under the guarantee of free speech as provided by the Constitution of the United States.

REGARDED AS THREATENING.

Suspicious Movements of Guatemalan
Refugees in Mexico.

Senor Munoz, the Guatemalan minister here, called at the State Department today to discuss with Acting Secretary Loomis certain suspicious movements of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico and also the attitude of Salvador, which are regarded as threatening a revolutionary attempt against Guatemala. These movements have been watched for some time by the Guatemalan government with apprehension, but so far they have not assumed a phase warranting action by the State Department here, even to the point of friendly representations.

OFF TO INDIANA.

Senator Hemenway Cuts Short His Va-
cation.

Senator Hemenway of Indiana, who came to town the other day expecting to stay some time, has hurriedly returned to Indiana on a peace mission. The republicans of the first congressional district are having a cat and dog time over the selection of a candidate for the House of Representatives to succeed Mr. Hemenway, who has gone to the Senate. There are two candidates for the nomination, John W. Brady and George A. Cunningham.

At the district convention this week the rival factions had a free fight, three chairs and benches at each other and, having most satisfactorily, finally broke that up in a split and calling two separate conventions in different places for next Saturday. Both factions seemed to be in a hurry for blood and the prospect seemed stormy.

The first district was formerly a democratic district and Mr. Hemenway has been months and three weeks in the grip of full of olive branches for the warring factions and a supply of oil to pour upon the troubled political waters. He did not intend to leave without what plan he will put into effect to bring about peace, but is going to have patience and the possibility of increasing the democratic representation in the delegation.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

Nine Members of Board of Review Now
Out.

The Secretary of the Interior has approved the action of the commissioner of pensions in accepting the resignations of nine members of the board of review of the pension office as a result of the investigation of the charges of misconduct against these men. The resignation of the tenth member of the board, which was submitted to the commissioner, has not been acted upon yet. The fact that the resignation of the tenth member of the board, which was submitted to the commissioner, has not been acted upon yet. The fact that the resignation of the tenth member of the board, which was submitted to the commissioner, has not been acted upon yet.

CHARGES SUGGESTED

Board of Charities Statement
to Commissioners.

GIRLS' REFORM SCHOOL

MATTERS IN A MUCH DISORDE-
RED CONDITION.

Methods of Management Severely Crit-
icised—Altogether an Unusual
Paper—Its Contents.

After nearly seven months of investigation, the board of charities today made a somewhat sensational report to the District Commissioners concerning the conduct and management of the girls' reform school. It is even intimated that employees of the institution have been discharged for no other reason than testifying before the investigating committee to the detriment of the officials in charge. The report also declares that the recommendations of the fire department have not been complied with; that the engineer knows nothing concerning the availability of the fire hose, and that the hose connection on the outside of the building is broken and has been useless for a long time. The engineer testified that he had appealed to the trustees, and it appears further along in the report that the trustees "considered" the matter, but took no action. The methods of school management are criticised, and in many other respects the report is unusual, judging from others which have emanated from the board of charities.

Probable Japanese Movements

"I do not know where the Japanese fleet is, nor does any one in the department here, but I believe that, as they have a base at Formosa, the fleet is near it. Scouts are most likely spread all the way from Formosa down toward the Philippines, so as to detect the approaching Russian fleet, no matter which way it comes. I might venture the prediction that, if Rojestvensky moves toward Formosa, you may expect a battle at any time, for the Japanese are waiting for them. It will be the Japs' policy to wait until the Russian fleet is not as a solid fleet. In other words, the Japs will attempt to fight one Russian ship at a time, disable or destroy it, and then pick off another."

WILL VISIT TOKYO.

Secretary Taft to Go to the Japanese
Capital.

Upon further consideration of the matter, as laid before him by Secretary Hioke of the Japanese legation, Secretary Taft has concluded to visit Tokyo, while his ship, the Manchuria, on which he will make his Philippine trip, is coaling at Yokohama. The Secretary has made a visit on occasion of other like detentions at Yokohama, and could scarcely fail to make an official call on this occasion. It has not yet been decided whether or not the entire party of six accompanying the Secretary shall join him in the visit to Tokyo.

DEATH OF JOSEPH LEANTO.

Acting Secretary Loomis Receives Re-
port of a Special Inquiry.

Acting Secretary Loomis has received from the Department of Justice a report upon an investigation conducted by one of its special agents at the instance of the State Department into the death of Joseph Leanto, an Italian, who was shot at the little station of Lorton, a few miles below Alexandria, about two weeks ago. The agent reports that Leanto "died from gunshot wounds while offering resistance to lawful arrest."

When the report of the governor of Virginia is received on the same affair, the occurrence of this case, with the result that the theory of suicide was negated.

PLANTED ANOTHER OAK.

Secretary Hitchcock Replaced the One
That Died.

Another small oak sapling, grown from an acorn taken from under a George Washington oak at St. Petersburg, has been planted by Secretary Hitchcock at the Washington office of the Interior Department. Many years ago some Russians who came to this country and went to Mount Vernon picked up some acorns from the immense oak close to the Washington home. The oak had been planted by Washington himself. The acorns were taken to St. Petersburg and planted and several of them grew into splendid trees on the beautiful avenues. When Secretary Hitchcock was ambassador of the United States to St. Petersburg he picked up some acorns from these saplings to Washington and planted them in the White House grounds near the upper gate at the east entrance. It occurred to him that the acorns were several weeks ago. Mr. Hitchcock and his daughter, accompanied by Col. Brownell, planted another oak of the same kind at the same place a few days ago, and it is hoped this one will live, giving it an interesting history.

Proposed Treasury Promotions.

Commissioner Yerkes has not made an announcement of his selection as chief of the claims division of the internal revenue bureau, to succeed the late Dr. J. Lee Adams, whose funeral services were held yesterday, but it is said to be likely that he will recommend to Secretary Shaw the transfer of E. C. Johnston, chief of the stamps division, to the vacancy. Mr. Johnston will receive the salary he is now paid. For chief of the stamps division the intention is to recommend Henry Giovannoli, at present private secretary of the commissioner. Mr. Giovannoli is from Kentucky and was a newspaper man until he came here with the commissioner. His faithful work entitles him, the commissioner thinks, to a promotion, and his intention is to recommend it. Such a recommendation will undoubtedly be acted upon in favorable manner by Secretary Shaw.

Argument Adjourned.

Justice McLean, in the supreme court, today adjourned until April 21 the argument in the suit brought by Henry G. Taft, policy holder in the Equitable Life Assurance Society, for an injunction to restrain the Equitable Life Assurance Society, its directors and the state superintendent of insurance from taking further proceedings regarding the proposed amendment to the charter of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

An attorney for James H. Hyde said today the report that Elihu Root had retired from his place as one of Mr. Hyde's counsel was erroneous. Mr. Root continues as one of Mr. Hyde's advisers, and the retain-

CONFESS IGNORANCE

NAVAL OFFICERS DON'T KNOW
WHERE THE FLEETS ARE.

Expert Speculation as to the Move-
ments of the Japanese and
the Russians.

Naval officers here are awaiting with keen interest some definite information regarding the movements of the Russian and Japanese fleets and the prospect of a naval battle, the result of which may decide the war in the far east.

"The prospective meeting of the hostile fleets," said one officer, "means a great deal more to Japan than it does to Russia. Japan has little to gain by the fight and everything to lose, while Russia has everything to gain and comparatively little to lose. It is impossible for any one at this distance to predict when or where the battle between the Russian and Japanese fleets will occur."

No Information at Hand.

"We have absolutely no information as to the exact whereabouts of the fleets. The report from Berlin that the Russian fleet is coaling at Cuyos Islands is merely a guess. We have no such information. I know that it would be a good place to coal, as there is quite smooth water beyond the three-mile limit, for the bottom of the sea is hard and smooth and it would afford a good coaling point; but I believe the Russians, in view of a meeting with the Japanese at any time, have kept their bunkers full of coal. They have coaled at sea."

Time Required for Coaling.

"I know how long it would take to coal an American or English ship, but I have no idea how long it would take the Russians to do the work, nor the number of colliers or number of ships to be coaled. As to what the Russians are liable to do, I don't know. If they are at the Cuyos Islands, which is a small group in the Sulu sea, about the middle of the Philippine archipelago, they might steam through the islands, for there is a deep channel there, and up the east coast of Luzon toward Formosa. Then, again, they might go south and sail around Mindanao and go up the east coast, or again they may go up the west coast and pass north of Luzon toward Formosa."

Probable Japanese Movements

"I do not know where the Japanese fleet is, nor does any one in the department here, but I believe that, as they have a base at Formosa, the fleet is near it. Scouts are most likely spread all the way from Formosa down toward the Philippines, so as to detect the approaching Russian fleet, no matter which way it comes. I might venture the prediction that, if Rojestvensky moves toward Formosa, you may expect a battle at any time, for the Japanese are waiting for them. It will be the Japs' policy to wait until the Russian fleet is not as a solid fleet. In other words, the Japs will attempt to fight one Russian ship at a time, disable or destroy it, and then pick off another."

WILL VISIT TOKYO.

Secretary Taft to Go to the Japanese
Capital.

Upon further consideration of the matter, as laid before him by Secretary Hioke of the Japanese legation, Secretary Taft has concluded to visit Tokyo, while his ship, the Manchuria, on which he will make his Philippine trip, is coaling at Yokohama. The Secretary has made a visit on occasion of other like detentions at Yokohama, and could scarcely fail to make an official call on this occasion. It has not yet been decided whether or not the entire party of six accompanying the Secretary shall join him in the visit to Tokyo.

DEATH OF JOSEPH LEANTO.

Acting Secretary Loomis Receives Re-
port of a Special Inquiry.

Acting Secretary Loomis has received from the Department of Justice a report upon an investigation conducted by one of its special agents at the instance of the State Department into the death of Joseph Leanto, an Italian, who was shot at the little station of Lorton, a few miles below Alexandria, about two weeks ago. The agent reports that Leanto "died from gunshot wounds while offering resistance to lawful arrest."